

GOVERNOR W. T. LaFOLLETTE'S PATRIOTIC SPEECH OF ACCEPTANCE BEFORE WISCONSIN LEGISLATURE

In his speech to the Wisconsin legislature, January 26, accepting the United States Senatorship to which his party had just nominated him, Governor W. T. LaFollette spoke as follows:

"To the Honorable, the Legislature of Wisconsin:

"I am informed by your committee that you have elected me to represent Wisconsin as United States senator. Assembled in joint session under organic and statutory law, you are empowered to speak for all the people of this commonwealth. Any man, at any time in his life, may well regard an election to the United States senate as the highest honor to which he can attain in the public service. That you should have chosen me at this time, and in this way, and in the spirit manifested by you, is a source of gratitude I can in no wise express. You have bestowed upon me, unsought, the greatest distinction which any state can confer upon any citizen. This mark of your confidence I shall cherish in grateful memory while I live.

"Whenever I have believed that I could be helpful in the public service, I have frankly and openly declared my candidacy. It has seemed to me the more honorable way. Months ago, had I been free to become a candidate for the office of United States senator, I should have so declared at that time. But for many years, issues in which I feel a profound interest have been pending in this state. Believing that I could best serve the public by so doing, I offered myself as a candidate for governor in support of these issues. I was twice elected, and, as God gave me to see the right, served the state as best I could. To assist in that unfinished work, I was, for the third time, elected governor.

Become Dominant National Issues.
"I am sure that none of you, who have borne with me the bitterness and fury of campaigns for a decade of time, would, for any consideration, endanger the consummation and protection of that work in which we have been engaged.

"We have seen it grow from the assertion of principle to the enactment of broad and comprehensive statutes which bulwark and fortify the foundations of representative government. We have seen it grow in interest until it passed the boundaries of the state and fixed the attention of the nation, and we have seen it expand upon the national side into the dominant issue in national legislation, where it had slumbered for many years.

"I would not have any member of the legislature, nor any citizen of the commonwealth, believe that I do not comprehend the wide scope of the duties of the high office of United States senator, nor of the obligation it carries to serve impartially the whole state and the whole nation, and all

the people, and all the people's interests.

Epoch-Making Years.
"But I believe I am not blinded by any feeling of prejudice, nor warped by any hard experience, in regarding the past decade in political history in Wisconsin and the next decade in the political history of the United States, as epoch-making years in state and national government. There are important, patriotic duties of this generation of men to perform in both of these great fields. Mindful as I must always be and you must always be—for the most of you carry the wounds and scars of this long strife—of the profound significance of the last ten years of political history in Wisconsin for the principles which underlie government by the people, your action in electing me United States senator seems to come as a commission from you, and the people of the state through you, to carry a message, out of our service here, into the wider field of national legislation. Your call invites me to participate in that great work, which was to deal immediately with the problems President Roosevelt has courageously pressed upon congress for solution.

His Duty to Wisconsin.
"I appreciate you have the same sense of obligation to the people of Wisconsin which I have. I fully realize that if you did not believe I could serve the people's interests better as senator than I could as governor, you would not have taken this action today.

"It would, indeed, be presumptuous for me to assume that you have not fully considered every phase of every question that can be raised by the action which you have taken. It would be doubly presumptuous in me to assume that my presence here is vital. I do not indulge that presumption, but I cannot at this time wholly divest myself of a sense of duty to the people of Wisconsin that, however difficult to define in specific terms, nevertheless exists, and is a valid reason for the course I am impelled to take, and which I trust your deliberate judgment will commend. For all of us must recognize the common obligation. We are commissioned by the same sovereign authority. We have accepted from them the same trust. The obligation is binding and the trust is sacred. They must be kept inviolate and fulfilled according to their intent and spirit. To achieve this we must each, in his own sphere, give to the state all that an important official duty once assumed, may demand.

Stood for Certain Things.
"We are at the very beginning of the session, and while at the present time there would seem to be no reason for any conflict of obligation, and while I do not believe that anyone can arise in state and national affairs to make that which today seems

plain and simple appear complex and difficult, nevertheless, I desire to exercise every possible precaution against future contingencies.

"I wish to be entirely frank with you and the people of the state, as I have always tried to be. There shall be no concealment nor any misunderstanding through any fault of mine. If a public office is a public trust, there should be no deception on the part of the official in the relation to those for whom he holds the trust.

"I cannot but feel I was elected governor of this state because the people believed I stood for certain things in government and that I would not relax my effort until I had done all in my power legitimately as governor to accomplish certain results.

To Meet Any Unforeseen Issue.
"If, at the very beginning of the session, before any legislation has been enacted, before there is any certainty that there will not be a conflict in duty as United States senator-elect and as governor of the state, I accept without qualification or explanation the honor you have tendered me, I fear my action would be misinterpreted by the people of Wisconsin. It might lessen their faith in official obligation, it might undermine their confidence and weaken their interests in the final fulfillment of the pledges made to them. I cannot believe that we can even partially fail in the faithful performance of every duty. I can not at present see what I could do as governor for this legislation after this session should terminate, if there were failure, either in whole or in part, which I might not do equally well, and, perhaps, more effectively, as a United States senator, in co-operation with the people of this commonwealth for a people's government. But recognizing, as I must, the present obligations which rest upon me, I am compelled to be in readiness to meet any unforeseen issue which may develop.

A Conditional Acceptance.
For these reasons, then, I say, in accepting your high commission, that, if there should appear any conflict in the obligation I entered into when I took the oath of office as governor, and that of United States senator-elect, then I shall ask you to receive it from me and place it in other hands of your own choosing. The selection of United States senator is your prerogative and will, of course, be preserved to you.

Great Issues at Stake.
"That I would call for any great personal sacrifice on my part to be compelled for any reason to decline the office of United States senator I need scarcely say. The opportunity which you offer me to serve the state is the greatest which could come to any man in this generation. At no time, since the close of the war, have

the essential principles of popular government been in greater peril. The government is seeking to control public-service corporations and industrial combinations, because these combinations and combinations are seeking to control the government. The next few years will test the vital principles of Democracy in this country as never before.

"Gentlemen, I thank you from a full heart for this great opportunity, this great honor, this great trust. I feel that the close relationship and mutual confidence which have heretofore existed between myself and the people of Wisconsin are equally vital as between the people and one elected to serve as United States senator. If that relation continues, it shall ever be my care to strengthen and preserve that intimacy and confidence. State government and national government are inseparably associated and constantly react upon each other. The interdependence in the spirit is closer than in the letter of the law.

"If I enter this service, it will be in the hope that friendships and associations with the people will strengthen and increase. That the republican party will find me in sympathy with and enlisted in the support of issues

CENSUS BUREAU REPORT OF MINING INDUSTRIES

ELABORATE WORK JUST ISSUED
BY GOVERNMENT CONTAINS
VAST AMOUNT OF VALUABLE
AND WELL ARRANGED INFORMATION.

Washington, Feb. 11.—The Bureau of the Census has just published its final and complete report on the recent census of the mining industries of the United States. This census was conducted in collaboration with the United States Geological Survey. It relates to the calendar year 1902 and forms a part of the general work of the Twelfth Census of the United States, being one of the special inquiries provided for in the legislation relating to that census. These inquiries were not to be taken up until the main reports presenting the data collected by the enumeration of 1900 relating to population, mortality, agriculture, and manufactures had been completed. A summary of the

statistics relating to mines and quarries has already been presented to the public in a preliminary report published by the Bureau as a bulletin about six months ago. This was a pamphlet of 50 pages. The report now issued is a bound volume of 1,423 pages.

The statistics compiled in the elaborate tables comprise data on the value and quantity of the product of the mines, the cost of supplies and materials, the miscellaneous expenses, the number of wage-earners and amount of their wages, the number of clerks and salaried officers, the kind and amount of power used, the amount paid for contract work, etc.

The layman taking up this report will probably be surprised at the variety of minerals covered by the inquiry. Statistics are presented not only for the coal, iron and petroleum of indispensable everyday use, and the gold and silver of universal desire, but for minerals with unfamiliar names and limited uses, such as bauxite, tungsten, uranium, and vanadium.

The report is far from being a mere compilation of figures. In fact, most of it is descriptive and analytical. It contains a discussion of the scope and plan of the mining inquiry, a historical review of the mining industry in the United States, followed by a discussion of the statistics for the industry as a whole. A separate section is devoted to the mineral industries of each state and territory, and it appears from this list that Mississippi and the District of Columbia are the only political divisions of the United States in which the sound of the miner's pick is not heard. This discussion by states is followed by a series of monographic reports presenting the results of the inquiry for separate minerals. These reports were prepared by different experts, most of whom are men of established reputation as authorities on the subjects which they discuss. This method of presentation makes it easy for the reader to find all the data relating to any particular state or particular mineral in which he may be specially interested.

The volume contains a large number of plates illustrating mining processes or mining machinery, and of diagrams presenting graphically statistics of production and prices. In the appendices are given the schedules of questions used in collecting the information, the instructions to the special agents employed in the work, and the instructions for revising and editing the schedules.

All in all the report contains a vast amount of valuable and well arranged information, and is probably the most complete account of the mining industries of the United States that has yet been published.

SENATE RATIFIES THE ARBITRATION TREATIES.

Washington, Feb. 11.—The senate today in executive session ratified the arbitration treaties between the United States and European governments. It required two sessions to reach an agreement to consider the treaties, no action being taken at former sessions beyond deciding that they would be taken up again today.

The first session today was confined almost entirely to the defense by half a dozen senators of the senate's right to amend treaties. The president was sharply criticized because of his letter declaring that it would be a step backward to ratify the treaties in the form proposed by the senate committee on foreign relations.

THE VATICAN HOPES TO RETAIN HOLD ON FRANCE.

Rome, Feb. 11.—Although a bill is before the French Chamber of Deputies providing for the separation of church and state which it is expected will pass, the Vatican authorities hope to retain their hold on France through the question of a protectorate over Catholics in the Far East.

OFFICIAL INSPECTION OF CUSTOM HOUSE.

The Custom House was inspected by a building inspector from the treasury department at Washington yesterday, who found the building in good condition. The inspection of government buildings is made periodically, and the work yesterday was in accordance with a regular schedule.

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Legal Advertisements.

Escambia County Circuit Court, State of Florida—Morris Bear vs. Geo. S. Wells—Attachment.
The defendant, Geo. S. Wells, and all other persons interested, are required to appear to this suit which began by attachment on or before the 6th day of March, A. D. 1905. H. Laney, Attorney for Plaintiff. dec-4m-12w

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